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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/624,014	07/21/2000	Hideaki Sakaguchi	1152-0263P	4601

7590 11/18/2003

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EXAMINER

BARAN, MARY C

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2857

DATE MAILED: 11/18/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/624,014

Applicant(s)

SAKAGUCHI, HIDEAKI

Examiner

Mary Kate B Baran

Art Unit

2857

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 July 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

1. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

Specification

2. The substitute specification filed 09 October 2003 has been entered. However, grammatical and idiomatic errors remain.

The following informalities are noted:

- (a) On page 3 paragraph [0006] line 1, "In such a test of a LCD driver" should be – In the testing of an LCD driver –.
- (b) On page 3 paragraph [0006] lines 5-6, "increase of the tonal levels in number" should be – increasing the number of tonal levels –.
- (c) On page 3 paragraph [0006] line 7, "needing a further longer testing time" should be – needing longer testing time –.
- (d) On page 4 paragraph [0010] line 1, "That is, the D/A" should be – The D/A –.
- (e) On page 5 paragraph [0011] line 4, "That is, in the D/A" should be – In the D/A –.
- (f) On page 5 paragraph [0011] line 16, "That is, the difficulties" should be – The difficulties –.
- (g) On page 5 paragraph [0011] line 17, "shown" should be – depicted –.
- (h) On page 5 paragraph [0011] line 18, "is that" should be – show that –.

(i) On page 6 paragraph [0014] line 3, "which incorporates" should be – in which the semiconductor integrated circuit incorporates –.

(j) On page 19 paragraph [0066] lines 1-2, paragraph [0067] line 1, and page 20 paragraph [0068] line 16, "a LCD" should be – an LCD –.

(k) On page 22 paragraph [0070] line 9, "falls output" should be – falls out of –.

(l) On page 25 paragraph [0075] line 2, "in LCD" should be – in the LCD –.

Appropriate correction is required.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-11 are allowed.

4. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Claims are allowable over the prior art because a testing device, specifically used for testing semiconductors having multiple digital to analog converters, which generates a set of sequential reference voltages and then sends these voltages, along with the integrated circuit output, to a comparator via differential amplifiers, to determine if the output falls within a specified range is not found, taught or suggested in the prior art of record.

5. As allowable subject matter has been indicated, applicant's reply must either comply with all formal requirements or specifically traverse each requirement not complied with. See 37 CFR 1.111(b) and MPEP § 707.07(a).

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mary Kate B Baran whose telephone number is (703) 305-4474. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marc S Hoff can be reached on (703) 308-1677. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.

MKB


MARC S. HOFF
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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